

## UTAH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

CLASS TITLE: EVIDENCE AND FINGERPRINT TECHNICIAN  
CLASS CODE: 5041  
EFFECTIVE DATE: Amended 10/13/2006 (Revised 01/20/1998 version)  
MARKET POINT: Based on applicable market study  
  
DEPARTMENT: Sheriff

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### **JOB SUMMARY**

Under direction of the Evidence and Crime Lab Supervisor, performs evidence collection and crime scene processing. Maintains an intact chain of custody for all evidence collected.

### **CLASS CHARACTERISTICS**

This is the primary classification level performing the collection and analysis of evidence including fingerprints.

### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

Locates, develops, photographs, and lifts latent fingerprints at crime scenes and from evidence collected and brought to the lab for chemical processing.

Prepares fingerprints found on various types of evidence for submission into, and comparison by, the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). Conducts side-by-side comparisons on ineligible prints.

Takes photographs at crime scenes, traffic accidents, and other law enforcement related incidents using a variety of photographic equipment. Operates photo dark room and developing equipment. Produces photographic reproductions of crime scene, evidence, victims, and suspects.

Prepares specimens for laboratory analysis by preparing media, solutions, reagents, and other technical laboratory processes and procedures. Conducts tests and examinations, and evaluates results.

Writes or drafts technical reports or related material based on research, investigation, or analysis.

Gives "expert" testimony in court on matters pertaining to crime scene investigation techniques, fingerprints, latent print identification, photography, or other forms of physical evidence identification.

Provides technical assistance to the prosecutor's staff and assists in developing case arguments and preparing evidence for court presentation.

Provides expert assistance to detectives and other law enforcement personnel related to the documentation and processing of crime scenes and the collection and preservation of evidence.

Performs all duties of the Evidence Custodian as necessary including receiving, securing, storing, and disposing of seized evidence and property according to federal and state law and department procedures.

### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**

Ability to maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted in the course of work activities including professional agencies, courts, defense attorneys, prosecuting attorneys, law enforcement agencies, and criminologists; Ability to communicate verbally and in writing; Skill in the use of photographic equipment; Ability to make rapid decisions and solve problems under pressure; Knowledge of department policies, criminal law, court procedures, and how to collect, protect, organize, and preserve evidence from a crime scene; Ability to organize data, file, type, and use computers to complete reports and retrieve case information; Skill in the latest fingerprint lifting technology including chemical processing, laser printing,

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super gluing, dusting, and fuming; Knowledge of AFIS procedures, state, and federal lab requirements; and Ability to analyze and organize evidence for prosecution.

### **PHYSICAL DEMANDS**

Typically sit at a desk or table; Frequently walk, stand, or stoop; Regularly lift, carry, push, pull or otherwise move objects weighing up to 50 pounds; Ascend or descend ladders, scaffolding, ramps, poles, and the like; Use tools or equipment requiring a high degree of dexterity; Regularly drive a motor vehicle; Work for sustained periods of time maintaining concentrated attention to detail; Need to distinguish between shades of color; and Communicate via radio.

Accommodation may be made for some of these physical demands for otherwise qualified individuals who require and request such accommodation.

### **WORKING CONDITIONS**

Work is performed in an environmentally controlled room and in a partially environmentally controlled building; Work exposes incumbent to conditions such as fumes, noxious odors, dusts, mists, gases, and poor ventilation; Work exposes incumbent to contagious or infectious diseases or hazardous chemicals; Work is performed for sustained periods outdoors and occasionally in hot, cold, or inclement weather; Work requires use of protective devices such as masks, goggles, and gloves; and Work exposes incumbent to unknown, dangerous, and/or life-threatening conditions.

### **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE**

Equivalent to a bachelor's degree in Forensic Science, Criminal Justice, Criminalistics, or related field AND two (2) years work experience as a certified law enforcement officer or in a related field. Preference may be given to applicants who have successfully completed a basic and an advanced course relating to one of the forensic disciplines recognized by the International Association for Identification (IAI) or the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) sponsored by the FBI, IAI, AAFS, Police Officer Standard Training (P.O.S.T.) or other recognized entity.

Selected applicants are subject to, and must pass, a full background check.

### **LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION**

Must possess a valid State of Utah driver's license.

This description lists the major duties and requirements of the job and is not all-inclusive. Incumbent(s) may be expected to perform job-related duties other than those contained in this document and may be required to have specific job-related knowledge and skills.